

**WHEREAS**, World Refugee Day was launched by the United Nations to honor the bravery, strength, and determination of refugees fleeing war and persecution; and

WHEREAS, refugees in communities across the state of Maine resettle in the hope of finding peace and safety for themselves and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, diverse refugee communities have been and continue to be woven into the fabric of Maine's vibrant cultural tapestry for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Maine celebrates the critical economic contributions refugee communities bring to our state;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2019 as

## **World Refugee Day**

throughout the State of Maine and I urge all citizens to recognize the enduring contributions of refugee communities seeking refuge within Maine's borders.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this tenth day of June Two Thousand Nineteen

> Janet T. Mills Governor

Matthew Dunlap Secretary of State TRUE ATTESTED COPY